

REMARKS

Applicant has amended claims 1 and 3. The amendments find support, for example, at page 12, lines 6-13, of the specification.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for allowing claim 5.

Claims 1-4 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 3,988,535 (Hickman) in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,899,634 (Montone), U.S. Patent No. 5,926,950 (Asai) and U.S. Patent No. 5,811,456 (Tsubouchi). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 1 as amended recites a command device commanding the recognition camera to sequentially take images of the component feeding positions of the component feeding units so that the taken image are stored prior to the start of a mounting operation. Claim 1 also states that the command device is configured to have the display device show the stored images successively in response to an action by a user prior to the start of a mounting operation. The Examiner admits that Hickman does not teach or suggest the claimed command device performing the successive image taking prior to the start of the mounting operation. See paragraph 2 of the Action.

For the teachings of the claimed command device, the Examiner relies on the disclosures at column 4, line 64 - column 5, line 8, of Tsubouchi. The cited passage of Tsubouchi discloses second camera 10 that detects chip pick-up positions before a start of the mounting operation. However, Tsubouchi fails to disclose the claim limitation that the command device is configured to have the display device show the stored images successively in response to an action by a user prior to the start of a mounting operation. In fact, Tsubouchi's device does not store images and stores only "data of the detected pick-up positions." See column 5, lines 1-3, of Tsubouchi. The data of the detected pick-up positions are used as numerical data to improve accuracy of simultaneous multiple component pickup. See column 5, line 9 - column 6, line 42, of Tsubouchi. As a result, Tsubouchi fails to disclose any display device to show the stored images, much less the claimed successive image showing.

Hickman and Asai do not disclose displaying images of component feeding positions at all. Although Montone discloses real time image display of article 10 and computer generated boundary marks 58-65, Montone fails to disclose the claimed successive showing of stored images. Furthermore, Montone's image displaying is performed during Montone's positioning operation, contrary to the claim language. See column 5, line 37 - column 6, line 17, of Montone.

None of the cited references teaches or suggests the claim limitation that the command device is configured to have the display device show the stored images successively in response to an action by a user prior to the start of a mounting operation. Claim 3 as amended recites the same command device as claim 1 that performs the successive showing of stored images.

The rejection of claims 1-4 under 35 USC 103(a) over Hickman, Montone, Asai and Tsubouchi should be withdrawn because they do not teach or suggest the claimed command device.


In light of the above, a Notice of Allowance is solicited.

In the event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952, referencing Docket No. 606402014300.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: February 8, 2007

By:



Barry E. Bretschneider
Registration No. 28,055

Morrison & Foerster L.L.P.
1650 Tysons Boulevard, Suite 300
McLean, VA 22102-3915
Telephone: (703) 760-7743
Facsimile: (703) 760-7777